

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order:

CHAIRMAN KELLY GEBHARDT, on January 14, 2009 at 3:00 A.M.,
in Room 422 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Kelly Gebhardt, Chairman (R)
Sen. Debby Barrett, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Aubyn Curtiss (R)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Jim Keane (D)
Sen. Gary L. Perry (R)
Sen. Jim Peterson (R)
Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser (R)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)
Sen. David E. Wanzonried (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Lindsey Hern, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 93, 1/7/2009; SB 94, 1/7/2009

Executive Action:

00:01:12 Chairman Gebhart announced that he will bring back SB 22 and SB 4 to the committee

HEARING ON SB 93

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:05 **SEN. LARRY JENT (D), SD 32**, opened the hearing on **SB 93**, Clarify groundwater utilization laws in closed basins.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:09:47 John Tubbs, Administrator of Water Resources Division (WRD), Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

EXHIBIT(nas08a01)

00:20:45 Bill Shank, Legal Council Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
EXHIBIT(nas08a02)

00:25:29 Brenda Lindlief-Hall, Tongue River Water User's Association

Opponents' Testimony:

00:27:24 John Bloomquist, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSA)

00:34:22 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Association of Relators (MAR)

EXHIBIT(nas08a03)

00:41:13 Krista Lee Evans, Association of Gallatia Agricultural Irrigators, Montana Farm Bureau, and Montana Water Resource Association (MWRA)

00:43:22 Dustin Stewart, Montana Building Industry Association (MBIA)

00:43:48 Vanessa Clark, Water Well Drillers (MWWDA)

00:44:27 Terry Lindsay, Lindsay Drilling

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:47:23 Sen. Debby Barrett

00:47:45 Sen. Jent

00:49:50 Sen. Keane stepped out of committee

00:49:56 Sen. Barrett

00:50:03 Ms. Evans, Association of Gallatia Agricultural Irrigators, Montana Farm Bureau, and MWRA

00:50:57 Sen. Barrett

00:51:18 Ms. Evans

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Closing by Sponsor:

00:52:14 Sen. Jent

00:52:56 Sen. Keane returned to the committee. Sen. Steinbeisser and Wanzenried left the committee.

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT(nas08a04)

HEARING ON SB 94

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:57:06 **SEN. LARRY JENT (D), SD 32**, opened the hearing on **SB 94**, Revise closed water basin permitting laws.

00:58:50 Sen. Steinbeisser returned to committee

Proponents' Testimony:

01:02:16 John Tubbs, WRD, DNRC

EXHIBIT(nas08a05)

01:12:24 Mr. Shank, FWP

EXHIBIT(nas08a06)

01:15:07 Ms. Lindlief-Hall, Tongue River Water User's Association

Opponents' Testimony:

01:15:57 Mr. Bloomquist, MSA

01:19:34 Sen. Wanzenried returned to committee

01:21:00 Ms. St. Lawrence, MAR

01:22:37 Ms. Evans, Association of Gallatia Agricultural Irrigators, Montana Farm Bureau, and MWRA

01:28:22 Dustin Stewart, Montana Building Industry Association

01:29:40 Ms. Clark, MWWDA

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:30:39 Sen. Jim Peterson

01:31:13 Sen. Jent

01:32:46 Sen. Peterson

01:33:18 Sen. Jent

01:34:09 Sen. Barrett

01:34:31 Mr. Tubbs, WRD, DNRC

01:34:39 Sen. Barrett

01:35:00 Mr. Tubbs, WRD, DNRC

01:35:14 Sen. Barrett

01:35:20 Mr. Tubbs, WRD, DNRC
01:35:49 Ann Yates, Attorney DNRC
01:37:04 Sen. Barrett
01:37:36 Mr. Tubbs, WRD, DNRC
01:40:59 Chairman Kelly Gebhardt
01:42:01 Mr. Tubbs, WRD, DNRC
01:42:42 Sen Wanzenried, Sen. Tropila and Sen. Peterson left the
committee.

Closing by Sponsor:

01:43:53 Sen. Jent
01:47:16 Sen. Gebhardt
01:47:24 Sen. Jent

Additional comments and Exhibits:

01:47:57 Mr. Tubbs, WRD, DNRC

EXHIBIT(nas08a07)

EXHIBIT(nas08a08)

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:04 P.M.

LINDSEY HERN, Secretary

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Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([nas08aad.pdf](#))